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/Erin Cowles/
Erin Cowles

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	:	10/815,400	Confirmation No. 7966
Applicant	:	Eldridge et al.	
Filed	:	March 31, 2004	
TC/A.U.	:	2829	
Examiner	:	Ernest F. Karlson	
Docket No.	:	P71C2-US	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To Whom It May Concern:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). Applicants ask that the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be initialed and returned in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

EXPLANATION OF JAPANESE LANGUAGE PATENT DOCUMENTS

Three citations in this IDS are Japanese patent documents. The following table summarizes English language explanations provided for each citation:

Citation No.	English Language Explanation
1	US Patent No. 5,994,152 is an English language counterpart. (US Patent No. 5,994,152 was cited as citation no. 28 in the IDS dated March 22, 2005 in this application.)
2	An English abstract is provided
3	An English abstract is provided

- ☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):
- ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)); or
 - ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage; or
 - ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits; or
 - ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.
- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed three months after the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application and the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☒ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
 - ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:
- a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**
 - a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

Fee:

- ☒ No fee is due.
- ☐ A check that includes \$_____ for the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment is provided by credit card.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 28, 2009

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 § C.F.R. 1.97(e)

- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement; or
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2). The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 28, 2009

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